

# COMPREHENSION CHALLENGES

When you want to know the weather forecast for the day, what do you do? Do you listen to the news on the radio, watch the weather predictions on TV, read the weathercast in the newspaper, or use some other way to find out?

One story is that you can predict the weather by looking at the sky. If there is a patch of blue in the southwest "big enough to make a dutchman a pair of pants", there will be clear weather. Using the color of the sky as your way of deciding whether it'll be stormy or sunny isn't a very reliable method.

In Roseburg, Oregon, there is an unusual and suprisingly accurate way to predict the weather. On Mount Nebo, a mountain close by the city, lives a herd of wild goats. Whenever a storm is approaching, the goats come down to the foot hills near town. When it's clear weather, they stay high in the mountains. If you look outside and see the goats close by town, you know it's going to be bad weather. If you watch on a clear day, you can spot them high in the mountains.

Some townspeople say the goats are the best weathermen they've ever met. They are right more than 90% of the time.

Do you sometimes wish you had some wild goats to prophesy the weather for you?



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1. The main idea of this story centers around:
  - (a) wild sheep
  - (b) weather predictions
  - (c) weather
  - (d) Mount Nebo
2. The best weathermen of the story were:
  - (a) newsmen
  - (b) radio casters
  - (c) wild goats
  - (d) skies
3. An unreliable method of predicting the weather is:
  - (a) observing the sky
  - (b) reading the weather forecast
  - (c) watching wild goats
  - (d) looking at the barometer
4. The wild goats live in a mountain:
  - (a) far from people
  - (b) near a city
  - (c) near a national park
  - (d) a TV station
5. After a storm when it is clear, the goats:
  - (a) will come into town
  - (b) go into the canyons
  - (c) go to the low pastures
  - (d) go high in the mountains
6. All of these are definitions of prophesy except:
  - (a) foretell
  - (b) predict
  - (c) foreshow
  - (d) fortune teller
7. From the story you can see that the townspeople:
  - (a) despised the goats
  - (b) wanted to get rid of the goats
  - (c) appreciated the goats
  - (d) chased the goats from town
8. From the story you can wonder if weather prediction can:
  - (a) ever be correct
  - (b) ever be 100% correct
  - (c) be risky
  - (d) be done by crystal ball